Reservation of rail tickets through ATMs

149. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways propose to extend the facility for reserving tickets through ATMs;

(b) if so, the details of banks with whom Government have entered into an agreement;

(c) whether Government are also entering into an agreement with institutionally promoted banks such as ICICI, HDF, UTI, IDBI etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Frequent rail accidents

150. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of some major railway accidents which took place in the country during the period 1.1.2004 till 30.6.2004 and the reason therefor;

(b) the steps taken to minimize such accidents in the near future;

(c) whether it is a fact that the continuous disregard of the reports of the Rakesh Mohan Committee and Justice Khanna Committee is the major reason for such frequent railway accidents; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to implement some of the major recommendation of these committees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There have been 132 (Provisional figures) consequential train accidents on Indian Railways during the period 1.1.2004 to 30.06.2004.